

### REMARKS

In an Office Action dated 13 December 2005 the Examiner subjected all pending claims 1-29 to a Restriction Requirement. More specifically, the Examiner is requiring a Restriction to Group I, claims 1-23, drawn to a method of forming an earplug; Group II, claims 24-29, drawn to an earplug.

Applicant herein elects Group I, claims 1-23, without traverse, for prosecution on the merits in the above-identified application. Claims 24-29 are herein correspondingly withdrawn. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the non-elected claims in a divisional application(s) without prejudice in respect of the present election or otherwise.

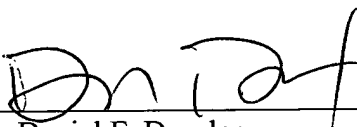
It is believed that the foregoing is fully responsive to the outstanding Office Action.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's attorneys at the below listed telephone number concerning this response or otherwise regarding the present application.

If there are any charges with respect to this restriction requirement, or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130 maintained by Applicant's attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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